BEST PRACTICES FOR INTERNATIONAL HOUSEHOLD GOODS SHIPPING

Georgia Angell
Chairman – HHGFAA
President – Dell Forwarding

THE MOVE

- Order number
- Registration number
- Shipper number
- Bill of lading number
- Customer number
- ID number
- Move number



Who are we moving?



- Order number
- Registration number
- Shipper number
- Bill of lading number
- Customer number
- ID number
- Move number

What? We're moving to "where"?



How can you help?

LISTEN to their concerns

- School quality
- Safety and security
- Weather
- Health care
- Natural forces
- Language differences
- Pets

Gather information FOR the customer

- HHGFAA Web Site (member's section) www.hhgfaa.org
- Internet
- Specialized firms

Assist the customer to become more informed

- Country overview (economy, government, medical)
- Fun tidbits (population, industry, median age, holidays)
- Currency, measurement system

How should they act?

Etiquette in the host country – Local customs

- Handshake vs. bow vs. kiss on the cheek?
- Titles and surnames
- Shoes on or off
- Gifts

What are we moving?

- Gramma's antique china
- Sally Sue's baby pictures
- Billy Bob's sports trophies
- Aunt Anne's handmade quilt



WHERE IS MY HHG?!!!



How will it get there?

- Educate the customer
- International moving is much different that domestic moving
 - Air or by sea
 - Liftvans or loose load
 - Transit time

THE PHONE CALL



The person who answers the call will set the tone

How do I enhance the initial experience?

- Speak clearly and pleasantly
- Communicate a sense of urgency to solve the problem
- Apologize sincerely
- Find someone who can technically assist the customer – NOT VOICEMAIL!
- Call your own number!

How do I provide caring actions?

- Show courtesy
- Listen actively
- Explain what you are doing
- Look for an opportunity to serve

Communicate the service strategy within your own organization

Good service organizations know that communicating a service strategy is like taking a bath:

No matter how well you do it this time, you have to do it all over again, and frequently, if you are going to stay clean.

REVIEW

- Who are we moving?
- Where are they going?
- What are we moving?
- How will it get there?

- How do I enhance the initial experience?
- How do I provide caring actions?
- Communicate the service strategy within your own organization